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Share this, Baarakallaah Feekum: ["One who guides to something good has a reward similar to that of its doer" - Saheeh Muslim vol.3, no.4665] May Allah reward everyone tremendously who has been in any part of this

great work. And may Allah reward you tremendously for reading and sharing this work. Ameen Ameen Ameen ya rabbul alameen. Allahumma Ameen Summa Aameen.

Abu Mas'ud reported: A man came to the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, and he said, "My animal has died, so help me." The Prophet said, "I do not have anything." Another man said, "0 Messenger of Allah, I can show him someone who can help him." The Prophet said, "Whoever guides someone to goodness will have a similar reward."

Source: Sahih Muslim

1893

Grade: Sahih (authentic) according to Imam Muslim

Abu Huraira reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Whoever travels a path in search of knowledge, Allah will make easy for him a path to Paradise."

Source: SahTh Muslim

2699

Grade: Sahih (authentic) according to Muslim

Article 1

By Sheikh Muhammad bin Abdul Wahhab

[Translated by Al-Mufridoun Publications]

Know (be aware) – may Allah have mercy upon you – that the first duty Allah has obliged upon the son of Aadam is al-kufr bit-taaghout (the rejection of false deities), and belief in Allah. And the evidence [for this] is the saying of the Exalted:

"And verily, We have sent among every ummah (community, people) a Messenger [proclaiming]: 'Worship Allah [Alone] and keep away from taaghout.'" [EMQ an-Nahl, 16:36]

As for the explanation of al-kufr bit-taaghout, it is to believe that anything [or anyone] that is worshipped instead of Allah is falsehood, and [one must] desert it and detest it, and make tafkeer to its people [those who worship it, i.e. the disbelievers] and to take them as enemies.

As for the meaning of al-Eemaanu Billaah, it is to believe that Allah is the Worshipped Lord – exclusively besides anything else – and to be sincere in all types of 'ibaadah (worship) to Allah, and to nullify it [one's worship] to any other ma'bood (false god), and to love the people of ikhlaas [i.e. the Muslims] and to have alliance with them. And [al-Eemaanu Billaah entails] hating the people of shirk and taking them as enemies.

And this [the aforementioned] is the Millah (ideology, or religion) of Ibraaheem (Abraham), which only the fool rebels against, and it is [also] the uswah (best example) which Allah has informed us about through His saying:

"Indeed there has been an excellent example for you in Ibraaheem (Abraham) and those with him, when they said to their people: 'Verily, we are free from you and whatever you worship besides Allah, we have rejected you, and there has started between us and you, animosity and hatred forever, until you believe in Allah Alone.'" [EMQ al-Mumtahanah, 60:4]

As for the taaghout, it includes anything [or anybody] that is worshipped instead of Allah and consents to being worshipped, or followed or obeyed – outside the obedience of Allah and His Messenger. Indeed he/it is taaghout.

And the tawaagheet [plural for taaghout] are many, and their heads are five:

1. The first: Ash-Shaytaan – the one who calls to the worship of others besides Allah. And the daleel (evidence) [for this] is His (SWT) saying:

"Did I not ordain for you, O Children of Adam, that you should not worship Shaytaan (Satan)? Verily, he is a plain enemy to you." [EMQ Yaa Seen, 36:60]

2. The second: The tyrant ruler who changes the ahkaam (laws or rulings) of Allah. And the evidence is His (SWT) saying:

"Have you seen those [hypocrites, i.e. disbelievers] who claim that they believe in that which has been sent down to you, and that which was sent down before you, and they wish to arbitrate [go for judgement in their disputes] to the taaghout [false judges, etc.] while they have been ordered to reject them. But Shaytaan [Satan] wishes to lead them far astray." [EMQ an-Nisaa', 4:60]

3. The third: The one who rules (or judges) by other than what Allah has revealed. And the evidence is His (SWT) saying:

"…And whosoever does not rule [or judge] by what Allah has revealed, such are the Kaafiroon." [EMQ al-Maa'idah, 5:44]

4. The forth: The one who claims that he has knowledge the Ghayb (Unseen) – which Allah has not informed [us] of. And the evidence is His (SWT) saying:

"[He Alone] the All-Knower of the Ghayb (Unseen), and He reveals to none His Ghayb [Unseen]." Except to a Messenger [from mankind] whom He has chosen [He informs him of Unseen as much as He likes],

and then He makes a band of watching guards [angels] to march before him and behind him." [EMQ al-Jinn, 72:26–27]

And the Exalted [also] said:

"And with Him are the keys of the Ghayb [all that is hidden], none knows them but He. And He knows whatever there is in [or on] the earth and in the sea; not a leaf falls, but he knows it. There is not a grain in the darkness of the earth nor anything fresh or dry, but is written in a Clear Record." [EMQ al-An'aam, 6:59]

5. The fifth: The one who is being worshipped instead of Allah and he is pleased with being worshipped. And the evidence is His (SWT) saying:

"And if any of them should say: 'Verily, I am an ilaah [god] besides Him [Allah],' such a one We should recompense with Hell. Thus, We recompense the Zaalimoon [polytheists, disbelievers and wrongdoers etc.]." [EMQ al-Anbiyaa', 21:29]

And know [be aware] that a man will never become a believer in Allah except by al-kufr bit-taaghout. And the evidence is His saying:

"There is no compulsion in religion. Verily, ar-Rushd (the Right Path) has become distinct from al-Ghay (the wrong path). Whosoever rejects taaghout and [then] believes in Allah, he has grasped al-'Urwat ul-Wuthqaa (the most trustworthy Knot of Islam). And He is the All-Hearer, the All-Knower." [EMQ al-Baqarah, 2:256][/b]

Ar-Rushd is the Deen (religion) of Muhammad (SAW); and al-Ghay is the deen of Abu Jahl; and al-'Urwat ul-Wuthqaa is the testimony Laa ilaaha ilallaah (there is none worthy of worship but Allah) – which includes nullification and affirmation. It [Laa ilaaha illallah] nullifies all types of 'ibaadah (worship) to other than Allah and affirms all the types of 'ibaadah for Allah exclusively, Who has no partners

Article 2

According to the scholars of Ahl us Sunnah wal Jama'ah, the Taghoot is defined as anything which is worshiped, obeyed, submitted to, or followed instead of Allah whilst consenting to it.

[Ibn Taymiyah, Fatwa 28/200; I'lām ul Muwaqqi'īn Pg. 50 by Ibn al-Qayyim and Kitab at Tawhid by Sheikh Muhammad bin Abdul Wahhab for the definition of Taghut]

This may include Shaytan, idols, stones, sun, stars, angels, or even human beings. Likewise saints, graves, rulers and leaders, other ruling systems besides Islam may also be falsely worshiped and made into Taghut. The Taghut are many, however, the following are the heads of Taghut:

1. The Shaytan (Satan):

He is the head of the Tāghūt and the one who calls to the obedience, worshiping or following of others besides Allāh. The evidence for this is the saying of Allah:

مُّبِينٌ عَدُوٌّ لَكُمْ إِنَّهُ ۖ الشَّيْطَانَ تَعْبُدُوا لَّا أَن آدَمَ بَنِي يَا إِلَيْكُمْ أَعْهَدْ أَلَمْ

"Did I not ordain for you, O Children of Adam, that you should not worship Shaytan (Satan). Verily, he is a plain enemy to you." [Qur'an, Surah 36: 60]

2. The leader/judge who introduces a law which contradicts the just Shariah (Law) of Allah:

Just to introduce a single law in contradiction to the Law of Allāh is enough to make such an individual a Tāghūt (false lord). This is because; Tashri (legislating) is a Unique Attribute of Allah. Hence, this individual is a false lord like Fir'aun (Pharaoh) and guilty of a major form of shirk as he has set himself as a partner to Allah. The evidence for this is:

وَإِنَّ ۖ بَيْنَهُمْ لَقُضِيَ الْفَصْلِ كَلِمَةُ وَلَوْلَا ۚ اللَّهُ بِهِ يَأْذَن لَمْ مَا الدِّينِ مِّنَ لَهُم شَرَعُوا شُرَكَاءُ لَهُمْ أَمْ
أَلِيمٌ عَذَابٌ لَهُمْ الظَّالِمِينَ

"Or have they partners with Allah (false gods), who have permitted for them a deen (law, way of life or religion) which Allah has not allowed." [Qur'an, Surah; 42: 21]

3. The leader/judge who rules/judges with laws contradictory to the just Shariah of Allah:

This individual becomes a Taghoot (false lord) because ruling/ judging is another Unique Attribute of Allah.

أَحَدًا حُكْمِهِ فِي يُشْرِكُ وَلَا وَلِيٍّ مِن دُونِهِ مِّن لَهُم مَا

"…and He makes none to share in His Decision and His Rule." [Qur'an, Surah; 18: 26]

إِلَى يَتَحَاكَمُوا أَن يُرِيدُونَ قَبْلِكَ مِن أُنزِلَ وَمَا إِلَيْكَ أُنزِلَ بِمَا آمَنُوا أَنَّهُمْ يَزْعُمُونَ الَّذِينَ إِلَى تَرَ أَلَمْ
بَعِيدًا ضَلَالًا يُضِلَّهُمْ أَن الشَّيْطَانُ وَيُرِيدُ بِهِ يَكْفُرُوا أَن أُمِرُوا وَقَدْ الطَّاغُوتِ

"Have you seen those (hypocrites) who claim that they believe in that which has been sent down to you, and that which was sent down before you, and they wish to go for judgment (in their disputes) to the Taghoot while they have been ordered to reject them. But Shaytān (Satan) wishes to lead them far astray. " [Qur'an, Surah; 4: 60]

4. The one who claims to have knowledge of the Unseen:

That is, the one who claims to have knowledge of the unseen or propagates the knowledge of the unseen from other than what Allah has relayed to us from the Qur'an and the Sunnah is a Taghut. This is because, none knows the unseen except Allah and He has relayed as much as He wishes to us through His Prophets.

أَحَدًا غَيْبِهِ عَلَىٰ يُظْهِرُ فَلَا الْغَيْبِ عَالِمُ

رَصَدًا خَلْفِهِ وَمِنْ يَدَيْهِ بَيْنِ مِن يَسْلُكُ فَإِنَّهُ رَّسُولٍ مِن ارْتَضَىٰ مَنِ إِلَّا

"(He Alone) the All-Knower of the Ghā'ib (unseen), and He reveals to none His Ghā'ib (unseen). Except to a Messenger (from mankind) whom He has chosen (He informs him of unseen as much as He likes)" [Qur'an, Surah 72: 26 – 27]

5. The one who is content to be worshiped:

That is, the one who is content to have any act of worship (i.e. supplication, prostration, bowing etc) directed to himself instead of Allah is a Taghoot (false god). This is because; worship is for Allah alone.

الظَّالِمِينَ نَجْزِي كَذَٰلِكَ ۚ جَهَنَّمَ يهِنَجْزِ فَذَٰلِكَ دُونِهِ مِّن إِلَٰهٌ إِنِّي مِنْهُمْ يَقُلْ وَمَن

"And if any of them should say: 'Verily, I am a god besides Him,' such We should recompense with Hell. Thus We recompense the wrongdoers." [Qur'an, Surah 21: 29]

Please note: Prophets, Angels, Righteous servants of Allah etc are taken as false gods besides Allah, however, they cannot be considered as a Taghoot, because they didn't command people to worship them nor would they accept for people to worship them besides Allah.

And Allah knows best.

[Source: Compiled from the "Book of Iman" by Sheikh al Islam ibn-Taymiyyah (rh) & other scholars of Salaf]

40 Hadith Nawawi 28: On the authority of Abu Najeeh al-'Irbaad ibn Saariyah (may Allah be pleased with him) who said:

The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gave us a sermon by which our hearts were filled with fear and tears came to our eyes. So we said, "O Messenger of Allah! It is as though this is a farewell sermon, so counsel us." He (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, "I counsel you to have taqwa (fear) of Allah, and to listen and obey [your leader], even if a slave were to become your ameer. Verily he among you who lives long will see great controversy, so you must keep to my Sunnah and to the Sunnah of the Khulafa ar-Rashideen (the rightly guided caliphs), those who guide to the right way. Cling to it stubbornly [literally: with your molar teeth]. Beware of newly invented matters [in the religion], for verily every bidah (innovation) is misguidance."

[Abu Dawud]

It was related by at-Tirmidhi, who said that it was a good and sound hadeeth.

Quran 6 :116

Arabic

يَخۡرُصُونَ إِلَّا هُمۡ وَإِنۡ ٱلظَّنَّ إِلَّا يَتَّبِعُونَ إِن ٱللَّهِۚ سَبِيلِ عَن يُضِلُّوكَ ٱلۡأَرۡضِ فِي مَن أَكۡثَرَ تُطِعۡ وَإِن

English - Sahih International

And if you obey most of those upon the earth, they will mislead you from the way of Allah . They follow not except assumption, and they are not but falsifying.

English - Tafsir ibn kathir

Most People are Misguided

Allah says;

اللهِ سَبِيلِ عَن يُضِلُّوكَ الاَرْضِ فِي مَن أَكْثَرَ تُطِعْ وَإِن

And if you obey most of those on the earth, they will mislead you far away from Allah's path.

Allah states that most of the people of the earth, are misguided.

Allah said in other Ayat,

الأَوَّلِينَ أَكْثَرُ قَبْلَهُمْ ضَلَّ وَلَقَدْ

And indeed most of the men of old went astray before them. (37:71)

and,

بِمُؤْمِنِينَ حَرَصْتَ وَلَوْ النَّاسِ أَكْثَرُ وَمَأ

And most of mankind will not believe even if you eagerly desire it. (12:103)

They are misguided, yet they have doubts about their way, and they rely on wishful thinking and delusions.

يَخْرُصُونَ إِلاَّ هُمْ وَإِنْ الظَّنَّ إِلاَّ يَتَّبِعُونَ إِن

They follow nothing but conjecture, and they do nothing but lie.

Thus, they fulfill Allah's decree and decision concerning them.

Hadith of prophet Muhammad SAW narrated by at-Tirmidhi (2641) as follows: "My ummah will split into seventy-three sects, all of whom will be in the Fire except one sect." They said: Who are they, O Messenger of Allah? He said: "[Those who follow] the path which I and my companions follow." It was classed as hasan by Ibn al-'Arabi in Ahkaam al-Qur'an (3/432), al-'Iraqi in Takhreej al-Ihya' (3/284) and al-Albaani in Saheeh at-Tirmidhi.

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Source: Sahih Muslim
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Article 1

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As for the explanation of al-kufr bit-taaghout, it is to believe that anything [or anyone] that is worshipped instead of Allah is falsehood, and [one must] desert it and detest it, and make tafkeer to its people [those who worship it, i.e. the disbelievers] and to take them as enemies.

As for the meaning of al-Eemaanu Billaah, it is to believe that Allah is the Worshipped Lord – exclusively besides anything else – and to be sincere in all types of 'ibaadah (worship) to Allah, and to nullify it [one's worship] to any other ma'bood (false god), and to love the people of ikhlaas [i.e. the Muslims] and to have alliance with them.

And [al-Eemaanu Billaah entails] hating the people of shirk and taking them as enemies.

And this [the aforementioned] is the Millah (ideology, or religion) of Ibraaheem (Abraham), which only the fool rebels against, and it is [also] the uswah (best example) which Allah has informed us about through His saying:

"Indeed there has been an excellent example for you in Ibraaheem (Abraham) and those with him, when they said to their people: 'Verily, we are free from you and whatever you worship besides Allah, we have rejected you, and there has started between us and you, animosity and hatred forever, until you believe in Allah Alone.'" [EMQ al-Mumtahanah, 60:4]

As for the taaghout, it includes anything [or anybody] that is worshipped instead of Allah and consents to being worshipped, or followed or obeyed – outside the obedience of Allah and His Messenger. Indeed he/it is taaghout.

And the tawaagheet [plural for taaghout] are many, and their heads are five:

1. The first: Ash-Shaytaan – the one who calls to the worship of others besides Allah. And the daleel (evidence) [for this] is His (SWT) saying:

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Ar-Rushd is the Deen (religion) of Muhammad (SAW); and al-Ghay is the deen of Abu Jahl; and al-'Urwat ul-Wuthqaa is the testimony Laa ilaaha ilallaah (there is none worthy of worship but Allah) – which includes nullification and affirmation. It [Laa ilaaha illallah] nullifies all types of 'ibaadah (worship) to other than Allah and affirms all the types of 'ibaadah for Allah exclusively, Who has no partners

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"...and He makes none to share in His Decision and His Rule." [Qur'an, Surah; 18: 26]

إِلَى يَتَحَاكَمُوا أَن يُرِيدُونَ قَبْلِكَ مِن أُنزِلَ وَمَا إِلَيْكَ أُنزِلَ بِمَا آمَنُوا أَنَّهُمْ يَزْعُمُونَ لَّذِينَا إِلَى تَرَ أَلَمْ
بَعِيدًا ضَلَالًا يُضِلَّهُمْ أَن الشَّيْطَانُ وَيُرِيدُ بِهِ يَكْفُرُوا أَن أُمِرُوا وَقَدْ الطَّاغُوتِ

“Have you seen those (hypocrites) who claim that they believe in that which has been sent down to you, and that which was sent down before you, and they wish to go for judgment (in their disputes) to the Taghoot while they have been ordered to reject them. But Shaytān (Satan) wishes to lead them far astray. ” [Qur’an, Surah; 4: 60]

4. The one who claims to have knowledge of the Unseen:

That is, the one who claims to have knowledge of the unseen or propagates the knowledge of the unseen from other than what Allah has relayed to us from the Qur’an and the Sunnah is a Taghut. This is because, none knows the unseen except Allah and He has relayed as much as He wishes to us through His Prophets.

أَحَدًا غَيْبِهِ عَلَىٰ يُظْهِرُ فَلَا الْغَيْبِ عَالِمُ

رَصَدًا خَلْفِهِ وَمِنْ يَدَيْهِ بَيْنِ مِن يَسْلُكُ فَإِنَّهُ رَّسُولٍ مِن ارْتَضَىٰ مَنِ إِلَّا

“(He Alone) the All-Knower of the Ghā’ib (unseen), and He reveals to none His Ghā’ib (unseen). Except to a Messenger (from mankind) whom He has chosen (He informs him of unseen as much as He likes)” [Qur’an, Surah 72: 26 – 27]

5. The one who is content to be worshiped:

That is, the one who is content to have any act of worship (i.e. supplication, prostration, bowing etc) directed to himself instead of Allah is a Taghoot (false god). This is because; worship is for Allah alone.

الظَّالِمِينَ نَجْزِي كَذَٰلِكَ ۚ جَهَنَّمَ نَجْزِيهِ فَذَٰلِكَ دُونِهِ مِّن إِلَٰهٌ إِنِّي مِنْهُمْ يَقُلْ وَمَن

“And if any of them should say: ‘Verily, I am a god besides Him,’ such We should recompense with Hell. Thus We recompense the wrongdoers.” [Qur’an, Surah 21: 29]

Please note: Prophets, Angels, Righteous servants of Allah etc are taken as false gods besides Allah, however, they cannot be considered as a Taghoot, because they didn’t command people to worship them nor would they accept for people to worship them besides Allah.

And Allah knows best.

[Source: Compiled from the "Book of Iman" by Sheikh al Islam ibn-Taymiyyah (rh) & other scholars of Salaf]

40 Hadith Nawawi 28: On the authority of Abu Najeeh al-'Irbaad ibn Saariyah (may Allah be pleased with him) who said:
The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gave us a sermon by which our hearts were filled with fear and tears came to our eyes. So we said, "O Messenger of Allah! It is as though this is a farewell sermon, so counsel us." He (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, "I counsel you to have taqwa (fear) of Allah, and to listen and obey [your leader], even if a slave were to become your ameer. Verily he among you who lives long will see great controversy, so you must keep to my Sunnah and to the Sunnah of the Khulafa ar-Rashideen (the rightly guided caliphs), those who guide to the right way. Cling to it stubbornly [literally: with your molar teeth]. Beware of newly invented matters [in the religion], for verily every bidah (innovation) is misguidance."

[Abu Dawud]
It was related by at-Tirmidhi, who said that it was a good and sound hadeeth.

Quran 6 :116

Arabic

يَخۡرُصُونَ إِلَّا هُمۡ وَإِنۡ ٱلظَّنَّ إِلَّا يَتَّبِعُونَ إِن ٱللَّهِۚ سَبِيلِ عَن يُضِلُّوكَ ٱلۡأَرۡضِ فِي مَن أَكۡثَرَ تُطِعۡ وَإِن

English - Sahih International

And if you obey most of those upon the earth, they will mislead you from the way of Allah . They follow not except assumption, and they are not but falsifying.

English - Tafsir ibn kathir

Most People are Misguided

Allah says;

اللهِ سَبِيلِ عَن يُضِلُّوكَ الاَرْضِ فِي مَن أَكْثَرَ تُطِعْ وَإِن

And if you obey most of those on the earth, they will mislead you far away from Allah's path.

Allah states that most of the people of the earth, are misguided.

Allah said in other Ayat,

الأَوَّلِينَ أَكْثَرُ قَبْلَهُمْ ضَلَّ وَلَقَدْ

And indeed most of the men of old went astray before them. (37:71)

and,

بِمُؤْمِنِينَ حَرَصْتَ وَلَوْ النَّاسِ أَكْثَرُ وَمَا

And most of mankind will not believe even if you eagerly desire it. (12:103)

They are misguided, yet they have doubts about their way, and they rely on wishful thinking and delusions.

يَخْرُصُونَ إِلاَّ هُمْ وَإِنْ الظَّنَّ إِلاَّ يَتَّبِعُونَ إِن

They follow nothing but conjecture, and they do nothing but lie.

Thus, they fulfill Allah's decree and decision concerning them.

Hadith of prophet Muhammad SAW narrated by at-Tirmidhi (2641) as follows: “My ummah will split into seventy-three sects, all of whom will be in the Fire except one sect.” They said: Who are they, O Messenger of Allah? He said: “[Those who follow] the path which I and my companions follow.” It was classed as hasan by Ibn al-‘Arabi in Ahkaam al-Qur’an (3/432), al-‘Iraqi in Takhreej al-Ihya’ (3/284) and al-Albaani in Saheeh at-Tirmidhi.

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